

Remarks

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application and subject to a requirement of election of species.

First Species Election Requirement

As to the generic element of "receptor", Examiner has required election from one of the following four species:

Specie A: a selected receptor that is a nuclear receptor;

Specie B: a selected receptor that is a kinase;

Specie C: a selected receptor that is a G-protein coupled receptor; or

Specie D: a selected receptor that is a transcription factor other than a nuclear receptor.

Applicants elect Specie A, namely a selected receptor that is a *nuclear* receptor.

Second Species Election Requirement

As to the generic element of "generating a hydrogen exchange profile", Examiner has required election of one of the following three species:

Specie E: the step of generating a hydrogen exchange profile that comprises determining the quantity of isotopic hydrogen only;

Specie F: the step of generating a hydrogen exchange profile that comprises determining the rate of hydrogen exchange only; or

Specie G: the step of generating a hydrogen exchange profile that comprises determining both the quantity of isotopic hydrogen and the rate of hydrogen exchange.

Applicants elect Specie G, the step of generating a hydrogen exchange profile that comprises determining both the quantity of isotopic hydrogen and the rate of hydrogen exchange.

Third Species Election Requirement

As to the generic element of progressively degrading isotopic hydrogen-exchange receptor or receptor complex, Examiner has required election of one of the two following species:

Specie H: progressively degrading that comprises contacting the isotopic hydrogen-exchanged receptor with an acid-stable endopeptidase (as stated in claim 17); or

Specie I: progressively degrading that comprises fragmenting, identifying, and sequentially terminally degrading using a acid-resistant carboxypeptidase (as stated in instant claims 20-21).

Applicants elect Specie I, namely a progressively degrading that comprises fragmenting, identifying and sequentially terminally degrading using an acid-resistant carboxy peptidase.

Claims Reading on the Elected Species

The claims which read on the elected species are as follows: 1-8, 15, 16, 20, 21 and 23-28.

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